Case 2:15-cv-00369-RSM Document 13 Filed 06/01/15 Page 1 of 10

1			
2			
3			
4			
5		The Honorable Ricardo S. Martinez	
6	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE		
7	WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE		
8	MICROSOFT CORPORATION)	
9	Plaintiff,)	
10	V.) No. 2:15-cv-00369	
11	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE)) AMENDED ANSWER OF THE) INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	
12	Defendant.)	
13	DEFENDANT, the Internal Revenue Service, by and through its attorneys,		
14	responds to the complaint as follows:		
15	1. The Defendant admits that Plaintiff seeks to compel disclosure of certain records		
16	under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), and denies the remaining allegations in		
17	paragraph 1.		
18	2. The allegations in paragraph 2	2 are legal conclusions to which no response is	
19	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant admits that the court has		
20	jurisdiction over the parties and this matter p	oursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).	
21	3. The allegations in paragraph 3	3 are legal conclusions to which no response is	
22	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant admits these allegations.		
23	4. The Defendant admits the all	egations in paragraph 4.	
	FIRST AMENDED ANSWER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division Ben Franklin Station, P.O. Box 227 Washington, D.C. 20044 202-616-9832 (Phone) 202-307-6866 (Fax)	

- 5. The Defendant admits that the Internal Revenue Service is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and that it is an agency within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 552(f)(1); and denies the remaining allegations in the paragraph. The Defendant avers that it has possession and control over some (but not all) of the records that Plaintiff seeks under the FOIA.
- 6. The allegations in paragraph 6 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant admits these allegations.
- 7. The allegations in paragraph 7 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant denies these allegations.
- 8. The allegations in paragraph 8 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant admits the allegations, and avers that FOIA requests must be perfected, the FOIA permits an agency an additional ten working days for an agency to respond under certain circumstances, and the 20-day period may be tolled under certain circumstances.
 - 9. The Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 9.
- 10. The Defendant admits that the Internal Revenue Service is conducting examinations of the federal income tax liabilities of Microsoft, and avers that such examinations are for various taxable periods between 2004 and 2006; and a separate examination for taxable periods between 2007 and 2009.
- 11. The Defendant admits that the defendant entered into a contract with Boies Schiller & Flexner ("Boies Schiller") on September 19, 2013, denies the remaining allegations in the first sentence, and avers that the contract was for expert services and had a ceiling price of \$350,000. The allegations in the second sentence of paragraph 11 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant admits that the

Case 2:15-cv-00369-RSM Document 13 Filed 06/01/15 Page 3 of 10

1	contract with l	Boies Schiller is related to assisting the IRS in its	examination of Microsoft, and
2	denies the rem	aining allegations.	
3	12.	The Defendant admits that Boies Schiller descri	bes itself as the Plaintiff alleges in
4	paragraph 12.		
5	13.	The Defendant admits that the defendant entered	ed into a contract with Quinn
6	Emanuel Urqu	nhart & Sullivan, LLP ("Quinn Emanuel") on or	about May 19, 2014. The
7	Defendant denies the remaining allegations in the paragraph, and avers that the contract was for		
8	expert services, had a ceiling price of \$2,185,500, and was related to assisting the IRS in its		
9	examination of Microsoft.		
10	14.	The Defendant admits that Quinn Emanuel des	cribes itself as the Plaintiff alleges
11	in paragraph 14.		
12	15.	The Defendant admits only that on June 18, 20	14, the IRS issued temporary and
13	proposed regulations that clarified that persons with whom the IRS or the Office of Chief		
14	Counsel contracts for services described in 26 U.S.C. § 6103(n) and its implementing regulations		
15	may be included as persons designated to receive summoned books, papers, records, or other data		
16	and to take summoned testimony under oath. The Defendant denies the remaining allegations in		
17	paragraph 15.		
18	16.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	ph 16.
19	17.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	ph 17.
20	18.	The Defendant admits that the Internal Revenu	e Service received the letter
21	attached to the	e complaint as Exhibit A on December 15, 2014.	The remaining allegations in
22	paragraph 18 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a		
23	response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as		
24	to the allegation	ons in paragraph 18.	
		ED ANSWER OF THE VENUE SERVICE	U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division Ben Franklin Station, P.O. Box 227

Washington, D.C. 20044 202-616-9832 (Phone) 202-307-6866 (Fax)

- 19. The Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 19.
- 20. The Defendant admits only that the allegations in paragraph 20 accurately quote excerpted portions of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit B, and denies the remaining allegations in the paragraph.
- 21. The allegations in paragraph 21 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant denies that the Plaintiff accurately quoted the excerpted portions of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit B, and lacks knowledge as to the remaining allegations in the paragraph. The Defendant avers that an excerpt of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit B states that "we will still be unable to locate and consider release of the requested records by January 30, 2015. We have extended the response date to March 31, 2015 when we believe we can provide a final response."
- 22. The Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 22. The Defendant avers that on May 13, 2015, Defendant released to Plaintiff 66 pages of documents, some partially exempt from disclosure, and on May 28, 2015, Defendant released an additional 200 pages of documents. These releases represent all of the records that Defendant located after searching records in its possession and control that were responsive to Plaintiff's First FOIA Request.
- 23. The allegations in paragraph 23 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations in paragraph 23.
- 24. The allegations in paragraph 24 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations in paragraph 24.
 - 25. The Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 25.

Case 2:15-cv-00369-RSM Document 13 Filed 06/01/15 Page 5 of 10

	1		
1	26.	The Defendant admits that the Internal Revenu	e Service received the letter
2	attached to th	e complaint as Exhibit C on December 16, 2014.	The remaining allegations in
3	paragraph 26	are legal conclusions to which no response is requ	aired. To the extent that a
4	response is re-	quired, the Defendant lacks knowledge or inform	ation sufficient to form a belief as
5	to the remaini	ng allegations in the paragraph.	
6	27.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 27.
7	28.	The Defendant admits only that the allegations	in paragraph 28 accurately quote
8	excerpted portions of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit D, and denies the remaining		
9	allegations in the paragraph.		
10	29.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 29.
11	30.	The allegations in paragraph 30 are legal conclu-	sions to which no response is
12	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defend	ant admits only that the allegations
13	accurately quote excerpted portions of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit E, and		
14	denies the remaining allegations in the paragraph.		
15	31.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 31.
16	32.	The allegations in paragraph 32 are legal conclu-	sions to which no response is
17	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or		
18	information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.		
19	33.	The allegations in paragraph 33 are legal conclu-	sions to which no response is
20	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defend	ant lacks knowledge or
21	information s	afficient to form a belief as to the allegations.	
22	34.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 34.
23	35. The Defendant admits that the Internal Revenue Service received the letter		
24	attached to th	e complaint as Exhibit F on December 15, 2014.	The remaining allegations in
		ED ANSWER OF THE VENUE SERVICE	U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division Ben Franklin Station, P.O. Box 227

Case 2:15-cv-00369-RSM Document 13 Filed 06/01/15 Page 6 of 10

	II		
1	paragraph 35	are legal conclusions to which no response is requ	aired. To the extent that a
2	response is re	quired, the Defendant lacks knowledge or inform	ation sufficient to form a belief as
3	to the remain	ing allegations in the paragraph.	
4	36.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 36.
5	37.	The Defendant admits only that the allegations	in paragraph 37 accurately quote
6	excerpted pos	rtions of the letter attached to the complaint as Ex	shibit G, and denies the remaining
7	allegations in the paragraph.		
8	38.	The allegations in paragraph 38 are legal conclu	sions to which no response is
9	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant denies that the Plaintiff		
10	accurately quoted the excerpted portions of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit G, and		
11	lacks knowledge as to the remaining allegations in the paragraph. The Defendant avers that that		
12	the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit G states that "we will still be unable to locate and		
13	consider release of the requested records by January 30, 2015. We have extended the response		
14	date to March 31, 2015 when we believe we can provide a final response."		
15	39.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 39.
16	40.	The allegations in paragraph 40 are legal conclu	sions to which no response is
17	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defend	lant lacks knowledge or
18	information s	ufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.	
19	41.	The allegations in paragraph 41 are legal conclu	sions to which no response is
20	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defend	ant lacks knowledge or
21	information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.		
22	42.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 42.
23	43.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragra	aph 43.
24	///		
	II	DED ANSWER OF THE EVENUE SERVICE	U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division Ben Franklin Station , P.O. Box 227

Case 2:15-cv-00369-RSM Document 13 Filed 06/01/15 Page 7 of 10

1	44.	The Defendant admits only that the allegations in paragraph 44 accurately quote
2	excerpted por	tions of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit I, and denies the remaining
3	allegations in	the paragraph.
4	45.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 45.
5	46.	The allegations in paragraph 46 are legal conclusions to which no response is
6	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defendant admits only that the allegations
7	accurately quo	ote excerpted portions of the letter attached to the complaint as Exhibit J, and lacks
8	knowledge as	to the remaining allegations in the paragraph.
9	47.	The Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 47.
10	48.	The allegations in paragraph 48 are legal conclusions to which no response is
11	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or
12	information s	ufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.
13	49.	The allegations in paragraph 49 are legal conclusions to which no response is
14	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or
15	information si	ufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.
16	50.	The Defendant incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1-49.
17	51.	The allegations in paragraph 51 are legal conclusions to which no response is
18	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or
19	information s	ufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.
20	52.	The allegations in paragraph 52 are legal conclusions to which no response is
21	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defendant denies that the Plaintiff is
22	entitled to all	of the records identified in the complaint.
23	53.	The allegations in paragraph 53 are legal conclusions to which no response is
24	required. To	the extent that a response is required, the Defendant denies the allegations.
	l	

Case 2:15-cv-00369-RSM Document 13 Filed 06/01/15 Page 8 of 10

- 1		
	54. The allegations in paragraph 54 are legal conclusions to which no response is	
	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or	
	information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.	
	55. The Defendant incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1-54.	
	56. The allegations in paragraph 56 are legal conclusions to which no response is	
	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant lacks knowledge or	
	information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations.	
	57. The allegations in paragraph 57 are legal conclusions to which no response is	
	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant denies that the Plaintiff is	
	entitled to all of the records identified in the complaint.	
	58. The allegations in paragraph 58 are legal conclusions to which no response is	
	required. To the extent that a response is required, the Defendant denies the allegations.	
	FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE	
	The Defendant released to Plaintiff all non-exempt records within its control that were	
	responsive to Plaintiff's First FOIA Request.	
	SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE	
	The Defendant is entitled to withhold from disclosure certain records (or a portion of	
	certain records) pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).	
	THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE	
	Plaintiff's requests were overbroad and failed to reasonably describe the records sought.	
	FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE	
	Plaintiff is neither eligible nor entitled to an award for attorneys' fees and costs.	
	FIRST AMENDED ANSWER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division Ben Franklin Station, P.O. Box 227 Washington, D.C. 20044 202-616-9832 (Phone) 202-307-6866 (Fig. 1)	

Case 2:15-cv-00369-RSM Document 13 Filed 06/01/15 Page 9 of 10

1	FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
2	Plaintiff's available relief is limited to that which is provided by the Freedom of Information
3	Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.
4	SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
5	Plaintiff failed to exhaust its administrative remedies.
6	SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
7	Plaintiff is not entitled to discovery in the context of FOIA litigation.
8	WHEREFORE, having fully responded to plaintiff's complaint, the Defendant prays that
9	this Court dismiss the complaint with prejudice, grant the Defendant its costs of defense, and grant
10	such other relief as may be deemed just and proper under the circumstances.
11	
12	DATE: June 1, 2015
13	<u>/s Richard J. Hagerman</u> RICHARD J. HAGERMAN
14	Trial Attorney, Tax Division U.S. Department of Justice
15	Post Office Box 227 Washington, DC 20044
16	Phone/Fax: (202) 616-9832/514-6866 Email: Richard.J.Hagerman@usdoj.gov
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	

FIRST AMENDED ANSWER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division Ben Franklin Station , P.O. Box 227 Washington, D.C. 20044 202-616-9832 (Phone) 202-307-6866 (Fax)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing answer on Plaintiff's counsel via the Court's electronic case filing system on June 1, 2015.

<u>/s Richard J. Hagerman</u> RICHARD J. HAGERMAN

FIRST AMENDED ANSWER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division Ben Franklin Station, P.O. Box 227 Washington, D.C. 20044 202-616-9832 (Phone) 202-307-6866 (Fax)